

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A web offset heatset ink composition having less than about 2 wt.% of volatile organic compounds comprising an aqueous polymer latex dispersed in an ink base that comprises:
 - 5 (a) a resin;
 - (b) a non-volatile plasticizer; and
 - (c) a pigment;
2. The ink composition of claim 1, wherein said polymer latex is
10 acrylicstyrene copolymer latex.
3. The ink composition of claim 1, wherein said polymer latex comprises a protective colloid which comprises acid functional groups.
- 15 4. The ink composition of claim 3, wherein said protective colloid is an acrylicstyrene polymer.
5. The ink composition of claim 1 wherein said polymer latex has amine functional groups.
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6. The ink composition of claim 1, wherein said resin has acid functional groups.
7. The ink composition of claim 5, wherein said resin is a high acid
25 number resin.
8. The ink composition of claim 1, wherein said non-volatile plasticizer is ethylhexyl tallate.

9. The ink composition of claim 1 having about 1 wt. % volatile organic compounds.

10. A method for increasing drying or setting speed of a web offset heatset ink composition having less than about 2 wt. % of volatile organic compounds and which comprises:

- (a) a resin;
- (b) a non-volatile plasticizer; and
- (c) a pigment;

said method comprising adding to said ink composition an aqueous polymer latex.

11. The ink of claim 10 wherein said polymer latex has amine functional groups.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said polymer latex is acrylicstyrene copolymer latex.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein said polymer latex comprises a protective colloid which comprises acid functional groups.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said protective colloid is an acrylicstyrene resin.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein said non-volatile plasticizer is ethylhexyltallate.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein said resin has acid functional groups.

17. The method of claim 10, wherein said resin is a high acid number resin.

18. The method of claim 10, wherein said ink composition contains
5 about 0 wt. % volatile organic compounds.

19. A method of increasing shelf stability of a Web Offset heatset ink composition which has less than about 2 percent by weight of volatile organic compounds (VOC) and which comprises:

- 10 (a) an ink resin;
(b) a non-volatile plasticizer; and
(d) a pigment;

said method comprising adding to said ink composition an aqueous polymer latex and a protective colloid which comprises acid functional groups.

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20. The method of claim 19 wherein said polymer latex has amine functional groups.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein said polymer latex is
20 acrylicstyrene copolymer latex.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein protective colloid is an acrylicstyrene resin.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein said non-volatile plasticizer is
25 ethylhexyl tallate.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein said resin comprises acid functional groups.

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25. The method of claim 19, wherein said resin is a high acid number resin.

26. The method of claim 19, wherein said ink composition contains
5 about 0 wt.% of volatile organic compounds.